GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3474
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2000
SCRUTINY OF CAG BY TRAI
RUPCHAND PAL;VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is being taken out of the scrutiny of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to cover the TRAI under audit`s purview?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. Under section 23(2) of the TRAI Act, the accounts of TRAI shall be audited by the CAG at such intervals as may be specified by him. This provision empowering the CAG to audit the accounts of TRAI has not been affected by the amendment to section 23(2) of the Act, which has only inserted an explanation for the removal of doubts, stipulating that decisions of the Authority taken in discharge of its functions under clause (b) of sub-section (1) and sub- section (2) of Section 11 and section 13, being matters appealable to the Appellate Tribunal, shall not be subject to audit under this section.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) &(b) above.